

JOHN RODGERS.

DECEMBER 20, 1831.

Mr. STORRS, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to which was referred the petition of John Rodgers, submit the following report:

The petitioner, about the year 1802, was married to a Cherokee woman, with whom he lived, as a part of the Cherokee nation, from thence until the treaty between the United States and the Cherokee nation, of the 8th July, 1817, improving and living on a tract of about 110 acres of land, which was always, previous to the running of the boundary line between the Cherokee and Creek nations, in pursuance of the provisions of said treaty, believed to belong to the Cherokee territory; during which time, the said petitioner considered himself to be, and in all respects conducted himself as one of the Cherokee nation, and was considered and treated as such by said nation. And the said petitioner, under these circumstances, after the making of said treaty, wishing to become a citizen of the United States, expressed his intention accordingly to the Cherokee agency, in June, 1818. But, on the running of the boundary line, pursuant to the eleventh article of said treaty, the land so occupied and improved by said petitioner was excluded, by a very small distance, from the territory ceded to the United States by said treaty, according to said line, and fell within the Creek territory, as thus ascertained: and the said petitioner, therefore, was not legally entitled, by the terms of said treaty, to, and has never had the benefit of, a reservation of land, as provided in the eighth article thereof. But your committee believe, that, under these circumstances, it is just and equitable to allow to the petitioner the value of his improvements on the said land, which he had so occupied and improved, which your committee find to be worth one thousand dollars; and therefore report herewith a bill in his favor for said sum.

